



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY.'S DOCKET: ZUCKER-FRANKLIN=1A

In re Application of:

ZUCKER-FRANKLIN, et al.

Serial No.: 09/545,782

Filed: April 6, 2000

For: ASSAYS FOR HUMAN T-CELL
LYMPHOTROPIC VIRUS
TYPES I AND II

Art Unit: 1637

Examiner: STRZELECKA

Confirmation No. 8307

Washington D.C.

January 2, 2003

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

JAN 07 2003

RECEIVED

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

Honorable Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

In response to the Office Action of
September 13, 2002, for which a one-month extension of time is
hereby requested, please enter the following amendment:

IN THE CLAIMS

Cancel claims 11-13 and enter the following new
claim:

14. (New) A method for screening healthy blood
donors or potential blood donors for carriers of diseases or
conditions related to at least one of HTLV-I and HTLV-II
infections comprising:

testing a sample from a donor or a potential
donor for the presence of a DNA which encodes the HTLV-I tax
protein or the HTLV-II tax protein;

wherein a positive test for the presence of a
DNA which encodes the HTLV-I tax protein or the HTLV-II tax
protein indicates the presence of:

a. at least one of HTLV-I tax protein or